

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /077 W

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R 031045Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, NP, UNGA

SUBJ: PUERTO RICO AND NON-ALIGNED

REF: STATE 22943

1. DURING MY MEEONG WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY KHATRI ON OCTOBER 3 I RAISED THE QUESTION OF NON-ALIGNED INTERFERENCE ON PUERTO RICO AT THE LIMA CONFERENCE. I GAVE KHATRI TEXT OF PORTION OF "LIMA PROGRAMME" DEALING WITH PUERTON RICO AND, DRAWING EXTENSIVELY ON REFTTEL, NOTED OUR STRONG FEELINGS THAT SUCH LANGUAGE WAS AN INCREDIBLE DISTORTION OF THE FACTS AND A GROSS INTERFERENCE IN U.S. DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. I NOTED THAT INDIA HAD BEEN AMONG THE COUNTRIES VOTING TO SHELVE THE PUERTO RICO QUESTION WHEN IT HAD BEEN RECENTLY RAISED IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24. I SAID THAT ALTHOUGH NEPAL, AS I UNDERSTOOD IT, HAD FILED ONLY A GENERAL RESERVATION AT LIMA, I TRUSTED THAT SUCH A RESERVATION WOULD APPLY TO THE NLC STATEMENT ON THIS QUESTION. THE FOREIGN SECRETARY GAVE ME ASSURANCES THAT HMG HAS NOT SUPPORTED AND WOULD NOT SUPPORT ANY EFFORTS AIMED AT RAISING THE PUERTON RICAN QUESTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND WOULD OPPOSE ANY UN ACTION OF THE KING ENVISAGED IN THE LIMA TEXT. HE ADDED THAT NEPAL DID

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NOT RESERVE ON SPECIFIC ITEMS OF THE LIMA COMMUNIQUE; TO

HAVE DONE SO HE SAID WOULD HAVE RAISED A WHOLE HOST OF PROBLEMS. RATHER NEPAL HAD SUBMITTED A STATEMENT IN WHICH IT NOTED IT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE BOUND BY CONSENSUS POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE NON-ALIGNED.

2. KHATRI STATED THAT HMG WAS AWARE OF THE TRUE SITUATION REGARDING PUERTO RICO AND IN NO WAY SHARED THE VIEWS OF "ONE OR TWO RADICALS" WHO WERE PUSHING THE QUESTION. HE NOTED PARENTHETICALLY THAT SUCH PEOPLE MIGHT DRAW AN ANALAGOUS SITUATION WITH MUSTANG, A SEMI-AUTONOMOUS REGION OF NEPAL WHOSE SOVEREIGNTY HAD HISTORICALLY BEEN IN SOME DISPUTE. CARGO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, SELFDETERMINATION, UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KATHMA04419
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750343-1057
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751084/aaaacxal.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 22943
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUERTO RICO AND NON-ALIGNED
TAGS: PFOR, US, NP, RQ, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006